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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/588,871

08/10/2006

Sumio Saito

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EXAMINER

JOHNSON, RYAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2817

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/588,871	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SAITO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Ryan J. Johnson	<b>Art Unit</b> 2817	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 March 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 5-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 August 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is responsive to the amendment received 3/4/2008. Claims 1-10 are pending. Claims 1, 5 and 8-10 have been amended. The abstract has been amended, and the previous objection to the specification on the grounds of abstract length has been withdrawn.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments filed March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

3. Applicant first argues that "according to Gercekci et al., in a stop operation mode shown in Fig.1, a second switch circuit (T3) is turned on, and a direct current flows through an amplifier (T2) via T3 and L. In such a state, since there is a resistance component (on resistance) in a current pathway between the drain and the source of T3, a part of the source voltage of T3 is returned to a gate terminal of T2 via R. Therefore, the oscillation does not completely stop."

4. This argument is not persuasive. Gercekci et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,272,736, hereinafter "Gercekci") explicitly discloses a start-stop oscillator (see abstract, title). While in the stop mode, Gercekci explicitly discloses that no oscillation signals are generated (see col.2,63-66 and Fig. 4B).

5. Applicant then argues that while Gercekci discloses an output gate circuit 38, the current application has no gate circuit and is intended to prevent the slight leakage that occurs in the convention structure. The examiner notes that the claims contain no language limiting the scope of the claim to not include an output gate circuit. Although

the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

6. Applicant's arguments do not comply with 37 CFR 1.111(c) because they do not clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. Further, they do not show how the amendments avoid such references or objections.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gercekci et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,272,736, as cited by applicant and hereinafter Gercekci). Gercekci discloses an oscillator (Fig.1) comprising: an oscillation unit with an amplifier (T2), an LC resonator (C1,C2,L) connected to the amplifier, the LC resonator having an inductance (L) coupled in parallel with a capacitance (C2, through C1), which resonates at a predetermined resonant frequency (inherent behavior of an oscillator), and a feedback circuit (R) which performs positive feedback to the amplifier (T2), the oscillation unit outputting an oscillation signal having a frequency determined by the resonant frequency of the LC resonator (L1,C1, and C2 act as a resonant tank that determines the resonant frequency); a first switch circuit (T1) which is connected to a

power supply unit (Vdd) to an amplifier of the oscillation unit (T2), which turns off an electric power supply to the amplifier during a period where non-oscillating state and turned on after an input (28) to set the oscillation unit in an oscillation state (col.3,6-36); and a second switch circuit (T3) which is connected to the power supply unit (Vdd) to the LC resonator of the oscillation unit, which turns on in a period immediately before the pulse signal is input (when 28 is a digital high, node B is a digital high and switch T3 is on. When the signal switches to low, T3 is turned off, T1 is turned on, and the oscillation unit oscillates; col.3,6-51; Fig.1), so that activation of an oscillation operation of the oscillation unit is accelerated (since energy remains in the resonator, col.4,50-52, T3 must inherently accelerate the start up of the oscillator in comparison to a similar circuit without the priming transistor T3).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gercekci et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,272,736) in view of Miya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,446,419, hereinafter Miya). Gercekci discloses the limitations of claim 1, but does not explicitly disclose the LC resonator being formed by a quarter-lambda transmission path. The examiner asserts that such a resonator is well known in the art. Miya discloses using such a resonator in order to provide a more stable operation (col.1,39-58). Therefore, it

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used a well known quarter-lambda transmission line, as disclosed by Miya, in the resonator of the circuit of Gercekci in order to have provided the benefits of a more stable resonator.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

11. Claims 3 and 5-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

12. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan J. Johnson whose telephone number is (571)270-

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1264. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Pascal can be reached on 571-272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/RJJ/

/Robert Pascal/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2817